JAN 1 3 2006

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal

Attorney Docket No.: 021496-002111US

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450. Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On January ___1_1_, 2006

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: JoAnn Evangelista

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Vahid SAADAT et al.

Application No.: 10/612,170

Filed: July 1, 2003

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR

GASTRIC REDUCTION

Customer No.: 20350

.

AMENDMENT

Confirmation No. 5203

Examiner: M. G. Mendoza

Technology Center/Art Unit: 3731

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 22, 2005, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.